



## ANNUAL REPORT FY 2009

JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009



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Joan Lally- Monitoring and Stewardship  
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## **LAND TRUST ASSISTANCE STAFF**

Beki Howey- Land Trust Assistance  
Coordinator

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**



The best part of conserving land is getting to meet the people who choose to protect their open spaces, forests and farms. They all share a love of the land and a strong commitment to influencing their communities in powerful, positive ways.

During FY2009 MET accepted 30 conservation easements, protecting 3,381 acres of natural areas, farmland, riparian corridors along the

Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, scenic vistas and historic sites. Since 1972, MET has successfully worked with land owners to help conserve their lands. To date, MET, in partnership with 52 local land trusts, has permanently protected 120,852 acres on 988 properties statewide.

During these tough economic times, MET provides great value to both land owners and the State. In FY2009, the cost per acre to process and secure donated easements was approximately \$70 an acre. Securing the easements, however, represents just the first step. MET, in cooperation with local land trusts and volunteers, ensures ongoing stewardship of its conserved land by routinely inspecting easement properties and assisting land owners with the issues they face as they continue to manage their land after placing it under protection.

At a retreat held in February 2009, the Board and staff of MET embraced the long-term stewardship of easement properties as the organization's most serious responsibility and aligned the strategic plan with this priority. MET also plans an increase its training and education efforts for both the general public and local land trust community.

FY2009 also brought with it a renewed interest in protecting the Chesapeake Bay. With protection efforts intensifying, conservation easements must be a part of any plan to preserve the land in the Bay watershed. 95% of Maryland flows into the Bay, so every acre protected by easements can directly help to restore and preserve this irreplaceable natural treasure!

National and local conservation leaders agree that the next 10-20 years offer the maximum opportunity to preserve open space for future generations. With the support of motivated land owners and state and local partners, MET looks forward to continuing to work to protect the treasured landscapes that we all care so deeply about.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Buxton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## HISTORY OF MET

MET was established by statute in 1967 to “conserve, improve, stimulate and perpetuate the aesthetic, natural, health and welfare, scenic and cultural qualities of the environment, including, but not limited to land, water, air, wildlife, scenic qualities, open spaces, buildings or any interest therein, and other appurtenances pertaining in any way to the State.”

Created as a State-sponsored entity, MET is both a unit of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and governed by a private Board of Trustees. This unique arrangement allows MET the resources and flexibility necessary to be a highly successful and trusted land conservation partner.

MET accepted its first easement donation in 1972, at a time when land protection and conservation easements were still in their infancy. Its signature easement donation program was established in the early-1970's, and since that time MET has grown as a national leader in the field. Today, MET is one of the largest land trusts in the nation and, by the close of FY2009, has permanently protected nearly 121,000 acres

of land on nearly 988 properties statewide. Over the past 40 years, MET has expanded into other program areas, in order to increase the capacity for land conservation in Maryland:

- *Stewardship Program*, to protect and enforce existing easements
- *Local Land Trust Assistance Program*, which has helped create, nurture and support over 50 local land trusts statewide
- *Small Grants Programs*, including Keep Maryland Beautiful and the Janice Hollman Grant
- *Land Trust Grant Fund* – revolving loan fund for easement or fee-simple purchase
- *Training and Education* - MET sponsors an annual conference and periodic trainings to keep its land trust partners current on the latest innovations in the field.

MET has a long history of working with more than 50 local land conservation organizations to protect natural, cultural, and historical resources in Maryland.



MET signs indicate protected properties along roads and waterways



## CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

From the forested mountain tops of Garrett County to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland boasts an ecological diversity and scenic beauty rivaled by few states in the nation. MET works with private property owners to permanently protect these valuable natural resources with conservation easements. A conservation easement is a legal agreement entered into voluntarily by a landowner and a government entity or land trust that permanently limits the uses of the land in order to protect its scenic, agricultural, woodland, wetland and habitat conservation values. An easement allows landowners to continue to own, use, and manage their property, and sell it or pass it on to their heirs. Conservation easements offer great flexibility and are tailored to fit a landowner's vision and goals for the property. The donation of a conservation easement is a reflection of a landowner's commitment to conserving scenic vistas and water quality for public benefit, ensuring the future viability of farming and forestry, and preserving the rural character and natural beauty of communities all across Maryland. In FY 2009, MET protected a total of 3,380.43 acres on 30 properties statewide. Two purchased easements, one in Garrett County and one in Cecil County, accounted for 1,100 acres of this total.

### WESTERN REGION

FY 2009 brought a substantial increase in acreage under easement in the western region through 4 new conservation easement donations and one significant purchased easement in Garrett County. The 5 properties total 846.725 acres.

In Frederick County 53.11 acres were permanently protected on two properties. The Isaacson property protects agricultural land, currently supporting a high quality hay making operation, just outside of Middletown. The Gordon property in Ijamsville, protects agricultural land and forest habitat. In Allegany County, MET worked with the Price family to protect their 24 acre forested property along the Pennsylvania border and nearly adjacent to Green Ridge State Forest.

Partnering with the Allegheny Highlands Conservancy, MET helped protect the 24.56 acre Braitman property in Garrett County near the headwaters of the Savage River, which flows through the property. This property is adjacent to the Maryland Ornithological Society's Carey Run Sanctuary, a 180 acre protected area.

In March 2009 MET completed the protection of the 745-acre Bear Creek Ranch property. The acquisition was a multi-year collaborative effort between MET, the Allegheny Highlands Conservancy and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Located off route 219, just north of Deep Creek Lake and west of Savage River State Forest, the property spans two ridge tops in the South Branch and protects the headwaters of Bear Creek. The property's high quality habitat is home to more than a dozen rare, threatened and endangered species, including the Tiger spiketail dragonfly, Southern Water Shrew and Glade Fern. The conservation easement includes special provisions that protect native biodiversity, enhance water quality, control harmful invasive and exotic species, and minimize forest fragmentation.

## CENTRAL REGION

A total of 540.7 acres were permanently protected in the central region of the state in FY2009. Of the nine properties protected, seven are located in Baltimore County, one in Cecil County, and one in Harford County. Eight of the nine easements are co-held with local land trust partners, including the Land Preservation Trust, The Manor Conservancy, the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, and the Harford Land Trust.

In Baltimore County, 168.9 acres were protected, including the 55-acre Morris/McGill property. Scott McGill and Jim Morris are the principals of Ecotone Inc., a Maryland-based company that provides wetland design and construction, stream restoration, and forest and wetland mitigation services. The landowners worked with MET and the Land Preservation Trust to craft an easement that would permit the property to be used as a forest and wetland mitigation bank for Baltimore County development projects. The arrangement allows McGill and Morris to harness market forces to restore and enhance woodlands, wetlands, and stream channels. The property consists of approximately 1,100 linear feet of Deer Creek, a major tributary of the Susquehanna River, and 900 feet of scenic road frontage on Harris Mill Road.

MET was active in the Monkton area in FY 2009, protecting the 23-acre Reeder property on Hess Road, among others. The Reeder easement property is located in the My Lady's Manor Historic District and is adjacent to nearly 500-acres of protected property.

MET and long-time partner the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy used federal transportation funds to purchase an easement on 355 acres on the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway in Cecil County. The property, known as Browning Creek Farm, protects scenic conservation values, a tributary of the Little Bohemia Creek, and is adjacent to a block of 1,600 acres of permanently protected land. The new owners, the Loller family, have deep ties in Cecil County and now own three farms, all of which are protected.

MET joined forces with the Harford Land Trust to complete protection of the Shaull property. In 1991, Clara Shaull placed 26 acres of her property under easement with MET and in December 2008 she finished the job, subjecting the remaining 16 acres to the conservation easement. Protecting the entire property fulfills a life-long dream of the Shaull family.



The 55-acre Morris/McGill property in northern Baltimore County

## SOUTHERN REGION

A total of 30 acres were permanently protected in the southern region of the state in FY2009. Partnering with the Conservancy for Charles County, MET helped protect the 29.97 acre Lloyd S. Bowling property in Charles County. The property is located along Allen's Fresh Run at the mouth of the Zekiah Swamp, both of which are tributaries of the Wicomico River. This is Lloyd Bowling's second conservation easement donation to MET and the Conservancy. The 30-acre Bowling property lies within a concentration of protected lands. Two Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) easements that total 519 acres are contiguous. The property is within 0.2 mile of the Zekiah Swamp Natural Environment Area, a 442-acre state-owned greenway. Within a mile of the property are three MET and/or Conservancy easements (including Lloyd Bowling's Westwood Manor residence) that amount to another 262 acres. The entire block of protected lands amounts to 2,463 acres within a one-mile radius of the property.

## EASTERN REGION

A total of 1,961 acres were permanently protected in the eastern region of the state in FY2009. Of the 15 properties protected, six are located in Talbot County, four in Dorchester County, four in Kent County and one in Queen Anne's County. Twelve of the fifteen easements are co-held with land trust partners, including the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and Wetlands America Trust.

In Dorchester County, 706 acres were protected, including a property owned by Dorchester County and opened to the public. This 392-acre property, situated along Marshyhope Creek, is habitat for several rare, threatened and endangered species, including a globally rare community called the Central Coastal Plain Basin Swamp and a State rare Inland Dune Ridge Forest community. MET co-holds the easement with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy.

Among the 547 acres protected in Talbot County is a property owned by the Passano family. The Passano farm is 163 acres of productive agricultural and forestland

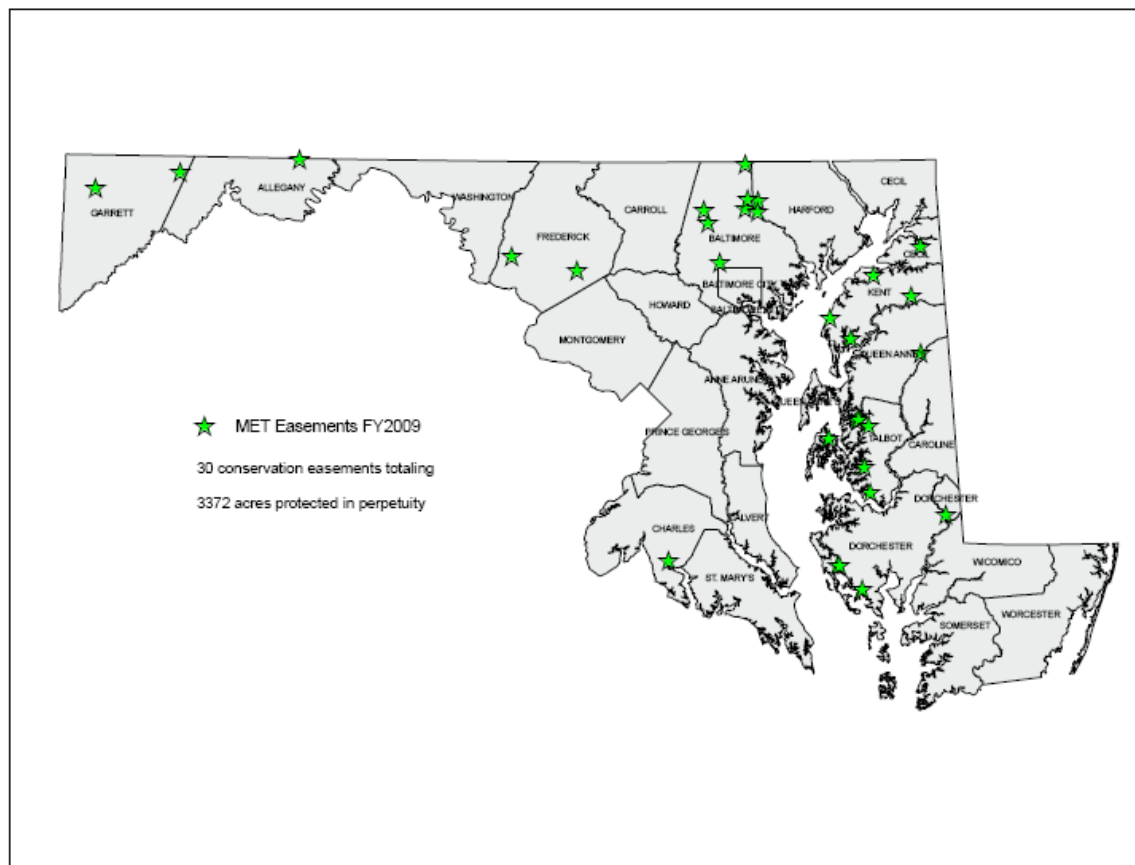


Snow falls on the Passano property in Talbot County

located in Talbot County's Priority Preservation Area. The property connects two other parcels to form a 1,399-acre contiguous block of protected land. About 57 acres are part of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, identified as having the greatest potential to affect water quality and wildlife habitat. Located along Little Neck Road southwest of the village of Trappe, the property provides habitat for the Federally endangered Delmarva fox squirrel and forest interior dwelling birds, whose populations are declining in Maryland and throughout the eastern United States due to sprawl development and deforestation. MET co-holds the easement with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy.

In Kent County, four conservation easements were completed for a total of 674 acres protected. One easement was donated by the Wilmerding family who protected 181 acres of farmland and forest, as well as nearly one mile of frontage along the East Fork of Langford Creek and Broad Neck Road. MET co-holds the easement with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy.

One easement was completed in Queens Anne's County protecting 27 acres. The Zimmer family protected their property which is predominately woodlands providing habitat for deer, several flocks of turkey, numerous raptors, owls and forest interior dwelling bird species.





## STEWARDSHIP AND MONITORING

The donation of a conservation easement to MET is a major investment in the continued health, beauty, and enjoyment of Maryland's open spaces and the Chesapeake Bay. Protecting one's property does not stop with the signing of the conservation easement. MET and cooperating local land trust staff and volunteers continue to look after the land on an ongoing basis, through regular monitoring of conservation properties. Stewardship involves a larger set of issues, which can include addressing landowner questions or concerns, or requests for MET to approve various proposed structures or activities on the property. MET works with local land trusts in the Maryland Land Trust Alliance to ensure that stewardship and monitoring procedures comply with or exceed national guidelines.



Stewardship Manager Jon Chapman monitors an Eastern Shore property

In FY2009, 168 easements were monitored state-wide, amounting to 17% of all properties, and 19,905 acres. MET staff visited 86 properties (51%; 9,225 acres), and local land trusts monitored 25 properties (15%, 7520 acres). Local land trust visits made up a larger proportion of acres monitored (38%), as many of those visits were to large Rural Legacy properties. In addition, MET benefited from the services of three seasonal employees who served 10 weeks of

this fiscal year, and who made an additional 20 visits (12%, 1540 acres).

Stewardship and Land Trust support personnel collaborated on presenting a training session for 14 monitoring volunteers organized by the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust, held at Jefferson Patterson Park in Calvert County, an easement property owned by the Maryland Historical Trust.

Stewardship staff presented nine requests for approval to the MET Board of Trustees. Of these, three were for home sites, subdivision of lots for residences, or both. All three were approved, two with conditions. The other six requests were for activities on easement or fee owned properties, of which half were approved, and the other half being rejected due to impermissibility.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Now in its sixth year, the Volunteer Program is an important component of MET's larger Stewardship Program. Dedicated volunteers monitor easement properties and document current land uses. During FY 2009 nine volunteers monitored over 1,400 acres throughout the state.

Volunteers are assigned to particular easements based on MET's monitoring needs and the volunteer's area preferred region of the state. MET staff then provides the volunteer with a field file, including maps, a summary of the property's conservation values, and a copy of the easement, so that the volunteer may become more familiar with the property before the monitoring visit.

After a comprehensive monitoring visit is complete, the volunteer creates a final report of his or her findings, complete with photos. The monitoring observations made by our volunteers enable MET staff to allocate its stewardship resources effectively.



## LAND TRUST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Land Trust Assistance Program supports the work of over fifty land trusts working in Maryland. The program is funded by a grant from Maryland's Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Program from the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Land Trust Assistance Program helps build and sustain the quality and effectiveness of land trusts.

Land trusts are not-for-profit corporations designed to protect land from development using conservation easements, gifts or purchases of land, limited development, conservation buyers, or promotion of existing local, state, or Federal easement programs. These land conservation organizations range from small groups operated solely by volunteers to large land trusts with multiple professional staff. A list of Maryland's land trusts can be found online at [www.dnr.state.md.us/met/landtrustslists.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/met/landtrustslists.pdf).

The Land Trust Assistance Program helps to promote land conservation and a number of national programs, specifically the Land Trust Alliance *Land Trust Standards and Practices* and the Land Trust Accreditation Commission.

The Land Trust Assistance Program supports Maryland's land trusts by:

- Technical Assistance – technical information and training, including an annual land trust conference.
- Creation and Support of Land Trusts – organizational support and growth, stewardship training and support of conservation easements, Janice

Hollmann Grants and the Aileen Hughes Award.

- Targeting of Conservation Easements – information on State land conservation priorities.
- Assessing Your Organization – organizational support to ensure implementation of Land Trust Alliance Standards and Practices 2004.
- Conservation Easements and Land Conservation – new easements and easement amendments, Land Trust Grant Fund.

During the first two quarters of FY2009, the position of Land Trust Assistance Coordinator was unfilled. Some of the duties of the Land Trust Assistance Program were covered by MET Staff members. Beki Howey was hired as the Land Trust Assistance Coordinator in January 2009.

The Land Trust Assistance Program hosted a workshop on October 17, 2008 on changes to IRS reporting for non-profit organizations, concentrating on new requirements relating to land conservation. Land trusts not making correct returns under the new requirements could be scrutinized for charitable status and the legality of their conservation easements questioned.

Charm City Land Trusts Inc. and MET completed a Cooperative Agreement with a new model for land trusts that do not meet MET policy for co-holding conservation easements. The agreement established principles in land conservation options and gives the land trust potential access to tax benefits for fee-simple owned properties.

Volunteers for Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust were trained in conservation easement monitoring in February 2009. These trained volunteers will provide capacity for the land trust to fulfill obligations to steward conservation easement properties. The training developed a model that can be used by other land trusts to improve consistency of monitoring and increase contact with landowners of conservation easement properties.

MET hosted the Maryland Land Trust Alliance Conference in May 2009 as a

forum for the exchange of ideas and information on land conservation programs and organizational development. The Land Trust Assistance Program solicits topics and presenters from the land trust community to meet current needs and address emerging issues. The Land Trust Assistance Program is also involved in administering the Maryland Land Trust Alliance (MLTA), an informal association of national, state, regional and local land conservation organizations working in Maryland.



Land trust staff and board members attend a recent training event



Members of the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust are trained to monitor conservation easements in February 2009

## **Maryland Land Trusts and Land Conservation Organizations**

### **STATEWIDE**

American Farmland Trust  
Biophilia Foundation, Inc.  
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage  
Maryland Alliance for Greenway  
Improvement and Conservation  
(MAGIC)  
Patuxent Conservation Corps, Inc.  
The Conservation Fund  
The Humane Society of the United  
States Wildlife Land Trust  
The Nature Conservancy  
Trust for Public Land

### **CENTRAL REGION**

Baltimore Green Space  
Baltimore Harbor Watershed  
Association  
Caves Valley Land Trust  
Charm City Land Trusts, Inc.  
Cecil Land Trust  
Greater Sandy Springs Green Space, Inc.  
Gunpowder Valley Conservancy  
Harford Land Trust, Inc.  
Howard County Conservancy  
Kensington Land Trust  
Land Preservation Trust  
Mt. Washington Preservation Society  
Neighborspace of Baltimore County  
Long Green Valley Land Trust  
Rockburn Land Trust  
The Manor Conservancy  
Valleys Planning Council, Inc.

### **EASTERN REGION**

Eastern Shore Land Conservancy  
Lower Shore Land Trust

### **SOUTHERN REGION**

African American Land Trust, Inc.  
American Chestnut Land Trust  
Annapolis Conservancy Board  
Bay Land Trust  
Black Swamp Creek Land Trust  
Calvert Farmland Trust  
Conservancy for Charles County, Inc.  
Cove Point Natural Heritage  
Crownsville Conservancy  
Magothy River Land Trust  
North County Land Trust  
Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust  
Scenic Rivers Land Trust  
Southern Calvert Land Trust

### **WESTERN REGION**

Allegheny Highlands Conservancy  
Carroll County Land Trust  
Carrollton Manor Land Trust  
Catoctin Land Trust  
Potomac Conservancy  
South Mountain Heritage Society  
Sugarloaf Countryside Conservancy

## **MARYLAND LAND TRUST ALLIANCE 2009 CONFERENCE**

MET hosted conservation professionals from over 50 land trusts and conservation organizations at the MLTA Conference on May 19, 2009 at the Patuxent Research Refuge National Wildlife Visitor Center in Laurel. Participants attended sessions on GIS mapping tools, the valuing of natural resources, conservation easement permanence issues, and environmental financing. Speakers included representatives from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Land Trust Alliance, national conservation organizations and insight from local land trusts.

The Conference Keynote Speaker was Ian J. Plant, a critically-acclaimed photographer of natural landscapes and wildlife. Many of Ian's photographs made emotional connections with the audience, showing the beauty of the Chesapeake Bay landscapes. Ian has travelled extensively in the Bay Watershed, exploring wild and forgotten places that many land trust members could recall from their personal experiences.

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

MET presents a number of grants and awards each year at the MLTA conference.

### **DILLON AWARD**

Alverta and Louise Dillon, sisters and retired school teachers, donated a perpetual conservation easement and then bequeathed their entire Garrett County property to MET in 1984.

Alverta and Louise were dedicated naturalists and were enthusiastic about conservation and enhancement of the many resources found on their land. Their generous bequest is maintained as an endowment to support the activities and mission of MET, in accordance with the

wishes of the Dillon family. The Dillon Award is made annually by MET to a landowner for outstanding conservation.

The 2009 recipient of the Dillon Award was Dr. Anson Hines, Director of Fish and Invertebrate Ecology at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC). Dr. Hines was instrumental in forging a partnership between MET, the Scenic Rivers Land Trust, the Department of Natural Resources, and Anne Arundel County which led to the protection of the 579-acre Contee Farm in Anne Arundel County.



MET Board Chairman K. King Burnett presents the 2009 Dillon Award to Dr. Anson Hines

### **AILEEN HUGHES AWARD**

MET and MLTA present the Aileen Hughes Award annually to honor the late Aileen Hughes, a true leader in the conservation movement. Aileen was a supporter of women's and civil rights, as well as the protection of our State's natural and cultural resources. Aileen was the President of the American Chestnut Land Trust for many years.

The Aileen Hughes Award is given to recipients for their leadership roles in the land trust community. The Award is given to an individual representing a Maryland land trust for leadership, partnership and innovation in a conservation project. The Award is presented as a cash sum to the



organization represented by the individual and is funded by non-state funds from MET.

The 2009 recipient of the Aileen Hughes Award was Kate Patton, the Executive Director of the Lower Shore Land Trust.



Kate Patton celebrates the 2009 Aileen Hughes Award with MET Board Chairman K. King Burnett

### JAN HOLLMANN GRANT PROGRAM

The Jan Hollmann Grant Program is part of the Land Trust Assistance Program provided by MET to support land trusts throughout Maryland. The grants, named for a woman who exemplified citizen leadership of local land trusts in Maryland, allow land trusts to increase their education and outreach activities in pursuit of conservation easement donations. Hollmann co-founded the Severn River Land Trust and the Arundel Conservation Trust, and served on the Severn River Commission. She was Izaak Walton League's Conservationist of the Year in 1989 and the Capital newspaper's Person of the Year for 1990. Jan died of cancer in April 1990. Our tribute to Jan Hollman is this annual grant program named in her honor for those local land trusts continuing in her footsteps.

These grants are usually targeted towards land trusts that demonstrate easement solicitation skills operating in regions of significant land conservation potential. The purpose of the Hollmann program is to build the capabilities of the local organizations

through small matching grants, with a particular focus on start-up assistance for new land trusts and fostering collaborations among neighboring organizations.

The Hollmann grant program supported 8 organizations in FY2009. The grants funded a variety of eligible costs, including staff positions, landowner outreach programs, office supplies, insurance and internships. Funding for the Jan Hollmann Grants is provided by the State Highway Administration. The recipients are:

Organization	Amount
African American Land Trust	\$2,500
American Chestnut Land Trust	\$2,500
Baltimore Green Space	\$3,500
Charm City Land Trust	\$3,500
Lower Shore Land Trust	\$4,000
The Manor Conservancy	\$3,000
NeighborSpace of Baltimore County	\$3,500
Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust	\$7,500
Total	\$30,000



Land Trust Assistance Coordinator Beki Howey and the 2009 Jan Hollmann Grant recipients

## LAND TRUST GRANT FUND

The Land Trust Grant Fund was established by the General Assembly in 1990 to make loans and grants available to land trusts to help them acquire easements and land. The Fund is available to land trusts at 0% interest when valuable resource lands are threatened by development and is a rapid response, highly leveraged means of funding conservation. The Fund provides on average only one fifth of the project purchase price; the balance comes from the local community and other private fund sources. \$2.7 million dollars have been lent from the Fund since its inception, matched by \$9.4 million from conservation partners. Funding from other State programs is not available on such short notice. Fourteen projects have been completed with full reimbursement and perpetual land protection placed on 1,700 acres at the end of FY09.

As of June 30, 2009, the Fund had a balance of \$1,752,763 in the Special Fund Statement of Unobligated Fund Balance MET Reserve Account M0563. No loans are outstanding.

The Fund received two reimbursements totaling \$379,140.00 during FY 2009. One

payment of \$250,000.00 was made by Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage. One payment of \$129,140.00 was made by Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust. Securities held for Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage were released. A mortgage held by Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust was subordinated to MET to give security until the conservation easement is recorded.

Three projects remain in progress to achieve perpetual land protection, although all loans have been fully repaid. The land is owned in fee-simple by conservation organizations, with minimal threat of development. No new projects have been funded since 2004.

MET is required to report on the Land Trust Grant Fund by the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article, Section 3-2A-14. The Trust shall report on or before September 1 of each year to the Governor, the budget committees of the General Assembly, and the Department of Legislative Services on the status of the Grant Fund as of the end of the previous fiscal year. This report is available through MET or the Department of Legislative Services.

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### FY2009 Active Projects

Organization	Date and Amount loaned	Date of Payment	Amount Repaid	Balance
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage, Inc.	\$400,000.00	3/10/2006 7/2/2008	\$150,000.00 \$250,000.00	\$0
Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust	9/19/2001 \$250,000.00	8/9/2005 6/7/2006 8/15/208	\$10,860.00 \$110,000.00 \$129,140.00	\$0
Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands	5/27/1998 \$81,300.00		Paid in full prior to 7/1/2005	\$0

## KEEP MARYLAND BEAUTIFUL

MET's Keep Maryland Beautiful Program, funded by the State Highway Administration, presents the Margaret Rosch Jones Award and the Bill James Environmental Grants to volunteer or non-profit groups who carry out environmental education projects.

The Margaret Rosch Jones Award was established in 1976 and is given in Margaret Rosch Jones' memory to non-profit groups or communities that show continuing plans for a project that has already demonstrated a basic understanding and resolution of an environmental issue. Born in 1906, Margaret Jones was dedicated to the preservation of the Chesapeake Bay. She had a genius IQ, wrote poetry, and was a self-taught Latin scholar. One of her "pet projects" was a statewide contest with prizes for the winner of gasoline station inspections. Margaret was the executive director and moving spirit of the Keep Maryland Beautiful Program for many years. MET hopes to remind citizens of her

devotion, energy, and ingenuity by presenting an award in her name of up to \$2,000 to a group whose voluntary activities personify those attributes that Margaret Jones brought to her work.

The Bill James Environmental Grants are given in memory of William S. James and are grants of up to \$1,000 for proposed environmental education projects by school groups, science and ecology clubs, and other non-profit youth groups. Born in Aberdeen in 1914, Bill James studied law at the University of Maryland and then practiced law in Bel Air for 38 years. He served as President of the Maryland Senate and as such was the principal architect of many of Maryland's most important environmental laws, including wetlands law, Program Open Space, and agricultural land preservation. Senator James drafted legislation to create the Maryland Environmental Trust, incorporating the activities of the Governor's Committee to Keep Maryland Beautiful. He was a man of vision who will not be forgotten for his contributions to the betterment of Maryland's environment.

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Margaret Rosch Jones Award Recipients	
Organization	Amount
Greenbrier Garden Club	\$500
Harford Land Trust	\$500
Montgomery County Public Schools	\$1,000
Total	\$2,500

Bill James Grant Recipients	
Organization	Amount
Assateague Coastal Trust	\$800
Jewish Environmental Youth Group	\$450
Northbay	\$800
St. John the Evangelist School	\$450
Southwest Baltimore Charter School	\$800
Thomas Jefferson Elementary School	\$400
Volunteer Frederick	\$300
Total	\$4,000